

LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

506 Holly Avenue, Box 477, Logan, West Virginia 25601 (304) 752-1550 Fax (304) 752-3711

John D. Myers
Superintendent

Logan County
Board of Education

Don Steele, President
Phyllis D. Adkins
Paul Hardesty
Robert J. Wolfe
Greg Wooten

96-45
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 17, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

JAMES H. QUELLO

APR 24 10 15 AM '97

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commissioner
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

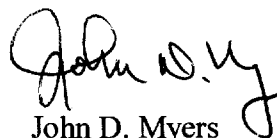
Dear Commissioner Quello:

Although West Virginia has less financial resources than most other states, the State Board of Education, the West Virginia Legislature, county boards of education, regional educational service agencies, and schools have made extraordinary efforts to keep our schools abreast of the rest of the nation in educational technology. In order for us to continue to improve opportunities for our children, it is imperative that the Federal Communications Commission approve the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for universal service for schools.

It is particularly important that schools and school districts receive the proposed deep discounts for internal classroom wiring and connections. Without proper internal wiring, the needed services will not get to the classroom where they will be most effective. It is also important that local control of telecommunication plans be included in the final guidelines since this will provide schools an opportunity to develop plans which will best meet the unique needs of individual schools.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Students and teachers of southwestern West Virginia are looking forward to quickly taking advantage of the quality educational experiences which will be made possible by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the FCC regulations which will soon be approved.

Respectfully yours,


John D. Myers
Superintendent

JDM:jsb



Santa Ana Unified School District

BUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
Al Mijares, Ph.D., Superintendent

April 21, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

JAN 24 10 15 AM '97

APR 24 10 15 AM '97

RECEIVED

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello,

I am writing to you in regard to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Santa Ana Unified School District and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Balen
Santa Ana Unified School District

1601 East Chestnut Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92701-6322, (714) 558-5501

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nativo Lopez, President • Aida Espinoza, Vice President • Robert W. Balen, Clerk
Rosemarie Avila, Member • Audrey Yamaqata-Noji, Ph.D., Member

Merced

City School District

444 West 23rd St., Merced, CA 95340

Phone (209) 385-6600
FAX (209) 385-6393

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL



Superintendent: Donald V. De Long, Ed. D.

Board of Education: Maureen Bultena, President, Paul de Ayora, Clerk, Karen Cole, Sue Fletcher, Leo Hernandez

Diversity our strength
Children our promise

April 11, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the superintendent of Merced City School District, and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Merced City School District will use the discounts to further implement our Technology Plan: including networking eleven more sites, purchasing equipment for these sites and providing training for our classroom teachers.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donald V. De Long, Ed. D.
Superintendent



SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 24 10 15 AM '97

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

APR 24 10 17 AM '97

JAMES C. QUELLO

SUNSHINE PERIOD

**MERCY
HIGH SCHOOL**

1300 E. Northern Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21239-1998
410-433-8880



The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to thank you for your dedicated efforts to ensure affordable access to the Information Superhighway for libraries and schools.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board plan will provide this access to even the poorest of our nation's schools. Your inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections as well as Internet service provider costs is critical.

On behalf of the entire Mercy High School community, I ask the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan. We thank you sincerely for your good work in this vital educational arena.

Sincerely,

Sister Carol Wheeler, RSM
Principal

CEW/car



DRAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL

500 NORTH MAIN
P.O. BOX 256
DRAKE, ND 58736

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

GEORGE WIELAND
Superintendent
MARVIN GOPLIN
Principal
BOARD MEMBERS
CAROL SPEAR, Pres.
ROLAND BROMLEY, Vice Pres.
DOROTHY MARTWICK, Director
RYAN KRIEDEMANN, Director
BERNICE SMITH, Director
SHIRLEY NEUHARTH, Bus. Mgr.

PHONE (701)465-3732 FAX (701)465-3634

April 14, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am currently Superintendent of Drake Public School District, a district that is located in rural north central North Dakota. I would like to let you know that your efforts in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway is greatly appreciated. We thank you.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have affordable access to the Internet and be able to provide-learning opportunities in areas such as our area where they are desperately needed. I'm am confident that the \$2.25 billion per year will address the needs of all our schools, and most importantly, will bring services to classrooms where students learn. Your inclusion of internal class-connections for discounts is vital. In a rural area such as ours, this plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Drake School District is trying desperately to catch up with the richer urban districts, but with half of our students on free and reduced meals, we don't have the resources to do so. In fact, we continue to fall farther and farther behind. We need funds to take us beyond stand-alone computers, most of which are Apple 2e's. We don't have the resources to pay for wiring, servers, routers and the hookups that are needed to bring the advantages of the internet to students in our classrooms.

I urge you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you,

George Wieland
George Wieland
Superintendent

JAMES

APR 18 3 37 PM '97

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RECEIVED
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 18 3 37 PM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

April 16, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 6 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello,

I am writing to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. I write as Head of School of West Nottingham Academy, an independent boarding and day school.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital, as is your inclusion of Internet Service Provider costs. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Baker
Head of School

96-45
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Hampshire County Board of Education

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Gerald A. Mathias

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE/DATA
Allen D. Hott



46 S. High Street, Romney, West Virginia 26757
Telephone: 304-822-3528
Director of Finance: 304-822-3962

April 17, 1997

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Helen A. Heatwole, President
Benjamin Elkins
David Parker
Brenda Pyles
Cynthia Smith

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

APR 18 3 38 PM '97

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

Although West Virginia has less financial resources than most other states, the State Board of Education, the West Virginia Legislature, the Hampshire County Board of Education, RESA VIII and our schools have made extraordinary efforts to keep our schools abreast of the rest of the nation in educational technology. In order for us to continue to improve opportunities for our children, it is imperative that the Federal Communications Commission approve the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for universal service for schools.

It is particularly important that schools and school districts receive the proposed deep discounts for internal classroom wiring and connections. Without proper internal wiring, the needed services will not get to the classroom where they will be most effective. It is also important that no state mechanisms for evaluation of telecommunication plans be included in the final guidelines since this will undermine schools' opportunities to develop plans which will best meet the unique needs of individual schools.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Students and teachers of eastern West Virginia are looking forward to quickly taking advantage of the quality educational experiences which will be made possible by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the FCC regulations which will soon be approved.

Yours truly,

Gerald A. Mathias
Superintendent

GAM:jmf

96-45

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Bruce J. Neighbors
Assistant Superintendent
Director, Elementary Education

45 Mount Rock Road
Newville, PA 17241-9466
(717) 776-2000

Dr. William K. Cowden
Superintendent of Schools

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
Dr. Richard D. Nilsen

Director, Curriculum
and Instruction

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 17, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Hon. Quello:

I am Dr. Richard D. Nilsen, Director of Curriculum and Instruction from Big Spring School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.2 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan to universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard D. Nilsen, Ed.D.
Director of Curriculum/Instruction

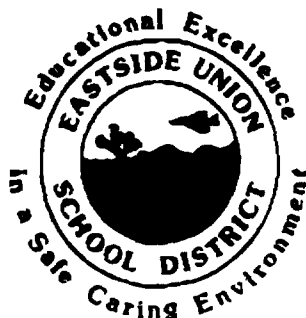
MAY 6 1997

JAMES

APR 23 3 42 PM '97

RECEIVED

Constance E. Webb
Superintendent

**SUNSHINE PERIOD**

Board of Education

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Mrs. Ida Ward, President
Mr. Larry Lake, Vice-President
Mr. Willard Ritchie, Clerk
Mrs. Martha D. Johnson, Member
Mrs. Janette T. Crawford, Member

April 18, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner (Michigan)
Federal Communications Commission
FAX #202-418-2802
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to you in regard to the Federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Rate Program. I am a locally elected school board member from the Eastside Union School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and most importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classroom where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the implementation of discounts on internal classroom connections should not be eliminated nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations requiring the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
Eastside Union School District

MAY 6 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY OR SUNSHINE PERIOD



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 23, 1997

TRANSMITTED BY FAX

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As a superintendent of schools from a school district in a state which is always struggling to advance technologically, I am most appreciative of your attention to the matter pending before the Commission regarding school districts and education generally. The need to maintain affordable access to the internet technology is a critical educational issue.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision to grant reduced prices for school districts will enable many of us to maintain the network connections and to provide enhanced distance-learning opportunities which would not be otherwise available.

Providing services directly to individual classrooms for use by our students through the proposed discounts of more than \$2 billion annually will be a tremendous assistance. It is also important that internal classroom connections be covered by a discounted rate structure. Most school districts simply do not have the resources to pay prevailing rates for networking costs.

I would also encourage you to minimize the paperwork required of local school districts for participation in this program. The FCC should continue its position of leadership by making it practical, economical, and simple for the education community to access the Information Superhighway.

Thank you for your leadership. Our students need the enhanced opportunities this can provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benny L. Gooden", is written over the typed name.

Benny L. Gooden, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

BLG/rf

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Gateway School District

RECEIVED
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
APR 18 3 31 PM '97

DR. WAYNE W. DOYLE/Superintendent

2609 Mosside Boulevard
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 373-5700 • FAX (412) 373-5731

April 16, 1997

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Quello:

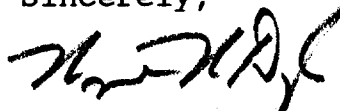
Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

On May 8, 1997, when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nations technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

As a school superintendent, I can assure you that the proposed discounts would provide a major thrust to our efforts to integrate technology into the curriculum. We are committed to providing our students with the computer skills that business demand and that our workforce will need to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy.

I encourage you to support the plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our workforce of the future.

Sincerely,



Wayne W. Doyle
Superintendent of Schools

WWD:amz

RECEIVED

96-45

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a Technology Coordinator from the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, located within the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Wilkes-Barre Area School District is in the state of chronic economic depression since the collapse of the coal industry in the 1950's. We have an aide ratio of .5610 with a student population of 7,421. In order for our children to compete, we need your help. It is vital that we place a higher level of technology into the hands of our children and teachers in order to level the playing field of achievement and help our students become more competitive.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

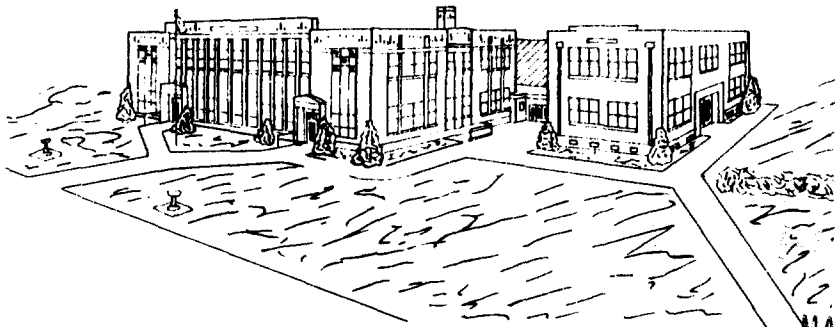


Charlotte C. Kordek
25 South Grant Street
Wilkes-Barre, Pa
Tel (717) 820-3771
Fax (717) 826-7164

JAMES G. QUAY

APR 24 10 16 AM '97

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CEDAR RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 218

408 Dayton Street

CEDAR RAPIDS, NEBRASKA 68627-0218

Elementary School

308-358-0732

Jr.-Sr. High School

308-358-0640

FAX Number

308-358-0211

MAY 6 1997

Marshall Tonnies, Superintendent

Scott Robinson, Principal

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a superintendent from the Cedar Rapids Public School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Cedar Rapids Public School District is part of the Tri-Valley Distance Learning Consortium which is applying for a lottery grant for distance learning. We need the subsidy in order to be able to afford distance learning.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marshall Tonnies
Superintendent

APR 24 10 21 AM 1997
JAMES
RECEIVED



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

215 West Garden Street P. O. Box 1470
Pensacola, Florida 32597 (904) 469-6155

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

96-45

Barbara Morris
Chairman
District II

Dr. Elmer Jenkins
Vice Chairman
District III

April 18, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Jim C. Bailey
District I

Dr. John DeWitt
District IV

Vanette Webb
District V

Louis F. Ray, Jr.
Attorney

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James Quelio
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Quelio:

As a School Board Member from Escambia County, Florida, I want to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

I am excited about the discount plan proposed by the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board. I believe it will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools. In Escambia County we have been struggling to keep up with the many needs of our students. We believe in the distance learning concept and would welcome your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications service this year. The Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries is vital. I want to strongly urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan.

Sincerely,

Barbara Morris
Barbara Morris
Member, District 2

BM:ljw

JAMES QUELIO

APR 24 10 13 AM '97

RECEIVED

South Fayette Township School District



2250 OLD OAKDALE ROAD
McDONALD, PENNSYLVANIA 15057
(412) 221-4542
FAX (412) 693-2883

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
DR. LINDA B. HIPPERT
Superintendent

April 21, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

JAMES

APR 24 10 13 AM '97

RECEIVED

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On May 8, 1997, when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nation's technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

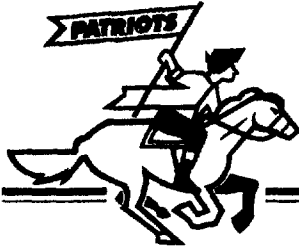
As a school superintendent, I can assure you that the proposed discounts would provide a major thrust to our efforts to integrate technology into the curriculum. We are committed to providing our students with the computer skills that business demands and that our workforce will need in order to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy.

I encourage you to support the plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our workforce of the future.

Sincerely,

Linda B. Hippert, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

pc: Board of School Directors



Washington Colony School District

130 East Lincoln Avenue • Fresno, California 93706
209/ 233-0706 • FAX 209/ 233-9583

FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 18, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 6 1997

JAMES

Apr 24 10 10 AM '97

RECEIVED

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Washington Colony Elementary School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

APR 24 2 27 PM '97

JAMES H. QUELLO

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

MAY 6 1997

**Millington Elementary School
172 Sassafras Street
Millington, MD 21651**

**Commissioner James H. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554**

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

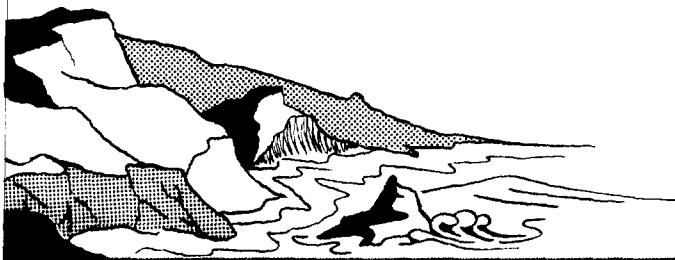
The Faculty and staff of Millington Elementary School in Kent County Maryland would like you to include us as among the supporters of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board. We believe that it is vital to the future welfare and opportunities of our students that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We hope that the FCC will fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Joseph S. Massey
Judith Colema
Leslie Davis
Janet L. Horsey
Anna Burns
Linda Taylor
Dawn M. Webb
Mike Abell*

*J. L. L. f.
Carmy A. H. Bennett
John A. Miller
Leon Truitt
Ed Silver
Beverly H. Jones
Ellen Vangelis
Deborah D. Smith*



Lucia Mar Unified School District

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

602 ORCHARD ST. • ARROYO GRANDE, CA 93420
(805) 473-4390 • FAX (805) 481-1398

ARROYO GRANDE

NIPOMO

GROVER BEACH

OCEANO

PISMO BEACH

April 21, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RR: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to vote positively for the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program, which is coming before the FCC for a decision in early May.

The obvious, increased need for better technology in our school systems, especially in terms of basic access to the Internet, is straining local school budgets. We are continually struggling to find the means to adequately support the onslaught of electronic communications. The "E-Rate" program could be a partial solution. It would positively impact thousands of our students in an area where training is now of paramount importance, if graduates are to compete in an increasingly complex world.

This seems to me a most sensible expenditure of federal funds from a government that has specifically called for increased communications literacy in the classroom. Please do all you can to see that this program is implemented.

Sincerely,

Carol Harvey

Carol Harvey
President
Board of Education

CH:sk

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

JAN 21 2 27 PM '97

APR 21 2 27 PM '97

RECEIVED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

**Bozeman Public Schools**

404 West Main, PO Box 520
 Bozeman, MT 59771-0520
 Voice: (406)585-1500
 Fax: (406)585-1504

Steven D. Johnson
 Assistant Superintendent
 Business and Operations
 Extension 1508

Suzanne Becker
 Accounting
 Extension 1506

Connie Campbell
 Transportation
 Extension 1508

Christine Day
 Information Systems
 Extension 1560

Gary J. Griffith
 Maintenance Supervisor
 Extension 1540

Sara G. Walker
 Payroll and Benefits
 Extension 1507

Robert Burrows
 Support Services Supervisor
 Support Services Building
 501 North 11th
 (406) 585-1675
 Extension 1562

April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
 Federal Communications Commission
 1919 M Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20554

SUBJECT: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

SUNSHINE PERIOD

I am the Media/Technology Supervisor of Bozeman Public Schools and was fortunate enough to attend the EDLINC meeting on the Telecommunications act of 1996 in Washington, D.C. on February 24, 1997. It is comforting to know that the FCC recognizes the need for technology in the classrooms to prepare our students to be the workforce of tomorrow.

We are fortunate to have direct internet access to all eleven of our schools. Our community, administrators and school board recognize the importance of technology and long distance learning. Within five years we plan to have all of our classrooms networked. Internal cabling has been very expensive so far. We have received some volunteer labor, but the majority of the interior cabling is contracted out at great expense. The inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is essential in the implementation of the Telecommunications ACT of 1996 for schools and libraries.

We have voice mail and e-mail available to all of our teachers for better communication in the district and the community. We also have home pages for our district and each of our schools. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision to ensure this access at a discounted rate for all schools is a necessity, especially in low population states such as Montana.

The \$2.25 billion a year will enable more classrooms to get connected, bringing unlimited resources to students. We are currently spending \$64,938 per year for our telephone and data communication leased lines. With the addition of E-rate discounts, we will be able to use the savings for technology training and classroom equipment. It is also imperative to have cable TV and satellite services to be included in the discount.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Day
 Media/Technology Supervisor
 Bozeman School District #7

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

LOUISIANA HYDROELECTRIC

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Administrative Office
409 Texas Street
via Telefax

Vidalia, Louisiana 71373-3320

April 24, 1997

(318) 336-9666
Fax (318) 336-9062

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Fax: 202-418-2802
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

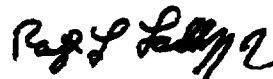
I am a businessman from Vidalia, Louisiana and Concordia Parish, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. As an active partner in education with the Concordia Parish School District, which is located within the Macon Ridge Economic Development enterprise zone, we are vitally interested in raising the standard of education within our rural school district through technology. Without continued improvements in our local labor force, we will not be able to attract industries and create stable job opportunities for our area.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

Monies available from these access discounts would be used specifically to improve physical technical facilities and the training for our dedicated teachers.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,

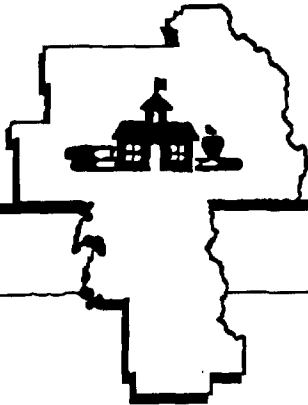


Ralph L. Laukhuff, Jr.
Executive Vice-President
Chief Operating Officer

RLLJr/sm

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY
Lake County Courthouse
106 Fourth Avenue East
Polson, Montana 59860-2187
Phone (406) 883-7262
Fax (406) 883-7283



Lake County

Joyce Decker Wegner, Superintendent of Schools*"The Future Lies In the Minds of Tomorrow"*MAY 6 1997
April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

FAX 202-418-2892

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Lake County Superintendent of Schools over eight district schools in Montana serving as liaison office between the districts and the State Office of Public Instruction. Three of the districts have small isolated two-room schools without administrators so I directly supervise those schools. I wish to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. Being on the electronic highway is vital for us in Montana with the vast geographic distances our districts cover and the barriers between them. Lake County has four different telephone companies operating with long distance charges between all of them. One of my isolated districts has two two-room schools twenty miles apart with long distance charges between each of them and between my office. This district, like two others, tries to provide quality education with a total operating budget of less than \$100,000. It is essential for all of us to provide the best education possible in the most efficient manner. Connectivity to each other and our local libraries via Internet e-mail and home pages will greatly assist this collaborative effort so that better education in the classroom can be improved.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts with an ability for connectivity between our cooperating districts and the small public libraries that serve them is essential if we hope to prepare our students for the workforce of tomorrow. More essential is that we prepare them to be people able to communicate with each other and the continuously shrinking world around us. We want our Montana students to be from THE LAST BEST PLACE in connection with the world. If we can get connectivity, including opportunities for distance learning and distance staff development, we will be active learners on the electronic superhighway.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. Thank you for your work towards these goals.

Sincerely,

Joyce Decker Wegner
County Superintendent of Schools



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 18
Franklin School District - Hill School District

119 Central Street
 Franklin, New Hampshire 03235
 (603) 934-3108 • FAX (603) 934-3462

MAY 6



SUPERINTENDENT
 Edgar R. Melanson

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
 Kathleen T. Bateson

READING SUPERVISOR
TITLE I DIRECTOR
 Jacqueline Verville, Ed. D.

DIRECTOR OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION
 Michael Hoyt

FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR
 Joan Hinds

FAMILY LITERACY
COORDINATOR
 Connie Brown

SUPERVISOR OF BUILDINGS
& GROUNDS
 Roger Hutchinson

FRANKLIN SCHOOLS:

PAUL A. SMITH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 Principal: Wilbur Roberge, Ed.D.

BESSIE C. ROWELL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 Principal: Sheril Pollsner

FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
 Principal: Barry Albert
 Ass't. to the Principal:
 Alan Davis

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
 Principal: Robert Retchless, Ed.D.
 Ass't. Principal: Wm. Athanas

HILL SCHOOL:

JENNIE D. BLAKE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 Principal: Sally Fisher

April 24, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a superintendent of schools from the Franklin School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force for tomorrow.

The Franklin School District is one of the poorest school districts in New Hampshire. Presently, we have no Internet connections because we cannot afford telephone lines and the internal wiring. Obviously, we have no wiring or computer connections within classrooms for networking in any of our five schools. We are only able to obtain dated computers of the 286, 386 and Macintosh Classic vintage, as well as other used technologies.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


 Edgar R. Melanson
 Superintendent of Schools

SUNSHINE PERIOD

96-45

JAMES DOWNS
President
DOREEN McDANIEL
Vice President
ROBERT HARDY
Clerk
DAVID VAN FLEET
Member
PAUL VINCENT AVILA
Member

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ontario-Montclair

School District

950 West D Street, Ontario, California 91762 • (909) 459-2502, Ext. 4445 • FAX (909) 459-2542

FRANK A. COSCA, Ed.D.
Superintendent

April 21, 1997

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Mr. Quello:

It is so very evident in this day and age that telecommunication service is an absolute necessity in the educational dream of the future. The potential of implementing the Telecommunication Act of 1996 would be significant to our district.

The Ontario-Montclair School District is considered to be an impoverished district and would therefore, be a considerable benefactor should the Telecommunications Act be approved.

Such passage will allow our young people the opportunity to become appreciably more involved with the concept in question. It is our thrust to provide as great an exposure as is possible.

Without doubt, any youngster having this opportunity to become familiar with and embrace telecommunications will be much better prepared to succeed in this era.

Your positive response will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert Hardy

Robert Hardy, Clerk
Board of Trustees



1150 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036-4104 TELEPHONE 202-775-7600 FAX 202-223-5088

April 15, 1997

The Honorable James H. Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
APR 21 3 12 PM '97
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REC'D

Dear Commissioner Quello:

SUNSHINE PERIOD

I am writing in response to a recent New York Time's article on the FCC's impending decision on local phone rates and the implementation of the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

The plan discussed in the article proposes to cut access charges, which is a good idea. But, to allow the local phone companies to make up the lost revenue in new and increased fees on residential consumers and small businesses is a terrible idea. First, my understanding from the article is that access charges are way above cost. To the extent they are above cost, they should be cut plain and simple.

Second, as a small business person I resent any attempt by regulators to protect local phone monopolies profits, or to recoup any lost revenues on the backs of small business. I should not have to pay more for a second or third phone line just to allow the local phone companies to maintain what is pure gravy for their bottom lines.

The cost of communications is a significant part of my business expenses and the new law was supposed to cut those costs, not increase them. Inflated access charges should be reduced by the FCC, but not at the expense of real local competition and certainly not simply to protect monopoly profits with increased or additional fees on my business.

I am anxious for the chance to choose my local phone carrier, not see my local or long distance phone bill increase just to cover the revenue stream of an antiquated system.

I look forward to hearing from you on this issue.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Howard
Leasing Representative

AARON YUSEM**DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**
EXCELENTE DR
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91364
USA

Phone 818-224-2211

Fax 818-224-2211

April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554
fax 202-418-2802

PJE: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner

I am a parent/community representative in the Los Angeles Unified School District at Hale Middle School and El Camino High School, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State joint Board decision guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

At both locations that I am involved with, one of my duties is formation of a technology plan. The most obvious limiting factor is cost. In order to reach the most students possible with a technology base that is up-to-date, access to the Internet has been shown to be a necessary integral part of any plan. The ability to access information quickly and efficiently for a large number of students is mandatory. As our students graduate into the work force, knowledge and understanding of computers will not be a choice, but will be compulsory and must be made available to all students.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,

Aaron Yusem

Aaron Yusem